



# MINERVA

## STATE SYMBOL

Just as the Roman Goddess Minerva sprang full-grown from the head of Jupiter, California became a state on September 9, 1850 without having been a territory. As a symbol for wisdom and justice, and supporter of the arts and learning, Minerva dominates the state's Great Seal, representing California's ideals and promise.

Her helmet, armor and shield prepare her to fight for just causes. As patroness of intellect and the arts, Minerva's presence symbolizes a commitment to excellence in education and creativity. She oversees California's agriculture, commerce, industries and natural bounty—all that make California special.

